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JAMES M. BARRIE GRANTED DIVORCE

NOVELIST'S SUIT AGAINST ACTRESS WIFE FOR MISCONDUCT WITH CANNAN UNDEFENDED.

LONDON, October 13.—James Matthew Barrie obtained from Sir John Bingham, president of the Divorce Court, this afternoon a decree nisi dissolving his marriage to Mary Barrie, on account of her misconduct with Robert Cannan. The suit was undefended and the decree will be made absolute in six months, providing there is no intervention, which is unlikely. The whole proceeding lasted 14 minutes.

Mr. Barrie himself was the principal witness, and was much affected while he was testifying. The date of the trial had been so well guarded that there were only nine persons in the public gallery during the hearing. Mr. Barrie's chief counsel was W. T. Barnard, K. C., instructed by Sir George Lewis, the famous solicitor.

The playwright, who entered the courtroom five minutes before the case was called, was accompanied by Lewis, and sat at the counsel table with bowed head, remaining in that position until he was called to the stand.

COUNSEL'S STORY.

Mr. Barnard in his opening said that the parties to the suit were married in Scotland July 9, 1894; that they had no children, and lived happily until about 18 months ago, when Mr. Barrie became acquainted with the co-respondent. In November, 1908, Mr. Barrie lent Mr. Cannan Blacklake Cottage, Surrey, for a short time, and part of the time Mrs. Barrie stayed there also, Mr. Barrie being away from home.

Suspicion was not aroused, however, until July of this year, when Mrs. Kate Hunt, wife of the gardener at the cottage, told Mr. Barrie certain incidents occurring at the cottage in the preceding November. As a consequence he wired Mrs. Barrie to meet him in London, and told her what Mrs. Hunt had related. Mrs. Barrie admitted the truth of the incidents narrated.

Mr. Barrie then offered to forgive her on condition that she had nothing further to do with Cannan or to agree to a separation. Mrs. Barrie refused and asked for her freedom.

BARRIE GREATLY AGITATED.

When he was called to the stand Mr. Barrie answered counsel's questions in a voice broken with emotion. With blanched face and eyebrows working with agitation he leaned forward on the witness stand, nervously toying with a ring on his wedding finger and scarcely ever looking up.

Asked as to the date of the marriage, he replied:

"I thought it was 1895. That was my idea."

When shown the marriage certificate he agreed that it was a year earlier, adding that the ceremony was performed at the preacher's house, he, Barrie, being ill at the time. He said he first became acquainted with Cannan about 18 months ago, when Cannan came to his house as secretary of a little committee connected with the censorship of the drama. He called frequently after that.

Barrie said that in November, 1908, he had given Cannan the use of his cottage for two or three weeks while his own was being redecorated. On July 28 last Mrs. Hunt told Barrie how one morning in November, she took tea to Cannan's room and found it empty. Going to Mrs. Barrie's room she heard her exclaim, "Gilbert! Gilbert!"

"Did you tell your wife about this?" Barrie was asked.

"Yes. She said, 'It's all quite true.' Barrie quite broke down when giving this answer, but pulled himself together to explain how, after telling her he must consult Sir George Lewis, she replied that it was the only time such a thing had happened.

TENDERED FORGIVENESS.

"I told her if she would return contrite I would forgive her and she could come back and no one would know anything about it, but she said how much more ignoble it would be to come back knowing that Cannan was the only person in the world for her."

Barrie resumed his seat beside Lewis and wiped his eyes with his handkerchief. Other witnesses were called but soon Justice Bingham stopped the case, saying he had heard quite enough.

"You may take the decree with costs against Cannan," he said.
Barrie and Lewis quietly left the court room. Neither Mrs. Barrie nor Cannan was in court or represented.

THE PRINCESS RINK.

The Princess skating rink will be open tonight, tomorrow night and Sunday night. Excellent music is supplied at this place by a brass band. First class in every respect.

Fine Job Printing, Star Office

CHINESE PLAN FOR NAVY BUILDING

MINISTER WU SAYS LOANS WILL LIKELY BE MADE WHERE SHIPS ARE BOUGHT.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—The Imperial Chinese Commission soon to visit this country on a tour of investigation of shipyards and commercial centers with a view to placing large orders for the rehabilitation of its navy will have a membership as exalted as the work before them is important, according to a statement made today by Minister Wu. Dr. Wu said his information was "unofficial," and then told last among the imperial commissioners would be Prince Bauen, brother of the Prince Regent, and Admiral Tsai, whose education in the Occident will make him invaluable on this expedition.

The scope of the investigating tour is larger than at first announced, according to the information supplied by Mr. Wu. Before the commission's return to Peking with its report it will have examined not only the yards and shops in this country, but in Europe as well.

The work of the commission will not stop with its report on the availability of American shops and yards, as opposed to those of other countries, to fill the orders promptly and reasonably, but its investigation will include the financing of the naval programme as well.

As China's announced naval program is an unbuilding of her present small fleet at a total cost of \$200,000,000, it is considered likely the financial end of the problem will give the imperial commissioners more trouble than the actual ascertainment of suitable ship-building conditions.

The exact date of the arrival of the commission is unknown to Dr. Wu, though he indicated the likelihood of its not being long delayed. While the commission's investigation will cover the whole field opening by China's new naval programme, not until their report is made will contracts be made or particular loans negotiated.

From an apparently reliable source it is learned that the initial expenditure of the Chinese Government toward the realization of its programme will be \$20,000,000 and whether this sum is spent in this country or elsewhere will depend largely on the commission's report. It was admitted at the State Department that it was aware of the coming of the commission, but further than this information in that quarter could not be obtained.

The energy Secretary Knox has shown in securing to interests in this country participation in the \$30,000,000 Chinese railroad loan makes it certain that no opportunity during the visit of the commission will be lost to convince the Orientals of the advantages of placing their order here.

It is understood of course, that loans covering the whole coast of the \$200,000,000 scheme will have to be divided, probably among France, Germany, England and this country.

The expenditure of that large sum will extend over a number of years, and it is believed that some strategic advantage rests in starting the stream of money in the right direction.

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH.

9:50 a. m., Bible school. Mr. C. H. Tracy, superintendent. Classes for all ages in the study of the International lesson.

10 a. m., Men's Bible Study Group. A critical study of the Gospels under the direction of the Assistant Minister. Beginning Sunday a study of the events of the last week of the Life of Jesus.

11 a. m., Morning Worship. Sermon by the minister. "A New Song." Anthem by the Chorus Choir under the direction of Mr. Stanley Livingston.

6:30 p. m., Christian Endeavor. "Life lessons for me from the Book of Hebrews." Miss Sigrid Hannestad, leader.

7:30 p. m., Evening service in charge of the Salvation Army. Address of the evening by Commissioner Estill. Special music by the Chorus Choir.

A cordial welcome to all to attend these services.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH.

First Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Beretania Avenue and Miller street. John T. Jones, pastor; Frank L. Lee, assistant pastor.

Sunday school, 10 a. m.; Arthur Robbins, superintendent.

Morning worship, 11 a. m., Mrs. Colonel Estill of the Salvation Army will speak.

Epworth League, 6:30 p. m. Evening service, 7:30 p. m.; sermon by the pastor. "The Medicine of Cheerfulness: Take a Dose."

Welcome to this house of God are all strangers. Tourists, soldiers and sailors will be given a warm welcome. Each Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock the mid-week prayer meeting; subject this week: "Loyalty to Christ;" John 6:66-67.

TOO POOR FOR SENATE.

LOS ANGELES, October 12.—United States Senator Frank P. Flint has announced unofficially that when his

present term of service expires March 4, 1911, he will not be a candidate for re-election. Mr. Flint is a Republican and is serving his first term. He said:

"If I were a rich man I would like to be a candidate for a re-nomination, and United States Senate all my life. But the sole reason for contemplating re-election and is serving his first term. He said: 'I feel I owe it to my family to get out of politics and gain a competency providing for my family.'"

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